

AGENDA



Thursday, February 10, 2011

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 24**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) with PROFESSIONAL TURF PRODUCTS, San Antonio, TX, for the purchase of 21 mowers in an amount not to exceed \$418,299.93.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is included in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 General Fund Critical One-Time Fund.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Sharon Patterson, Senior Buyer 972-4014

MBE/WBE: This Cooperative Purchase is exempt from the MBE/WBE Ordinance. This exemption is in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this contract.

This contract is for the purchase of 21 replacement mowers to be assigned to the Grounds Maintenance Division, the Central Parks Division, and the Athletics Division of the Parks and Recreation Department. These mowers will replace mowers purchased 12 years ago and will be used for lawn care and grounds maintenance at City parks and athletic fields.

The Austin Climate Protection Program team and Fleet staff have worked together to develop a vehicle purchasing process in our progress towards our citywide objective of obtaining carbon neutrality by 2020. The development of the purchasing criteria incorporates emissions impact, available technologies on the market, physical demands on the vehicle, and service application. These criteria are applied to all vehicles submitted to Fleet for purchase.

Eighteen of these mowers are powered by Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG). In line with the Austin Climate Protection Programs goals, LPG has fewer toxic and smog-forming air pollutants, including 80% fewer nitrogen oxide emissions than diesel, zero particulates, and up to 60% lower carbon monoxide emissions than gasoline.

Three of these mowers are powered by engines capable of burning biodiesel (B20) fuel. In line with Austin Climate Protection Program goals, B20 provides an approximate 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions versus using gasoline and an approximate 5% reduction versus using petro-diesel. These mowers are available only with diesel engines which can not be converted to LPG.

All of these replacement mowers have met the Fleet Officer's eligibility criteria for replacement. The Fleet Service Center Managers have inspected each mower to be replaced, and determined that the mileage or hours of use of each mower proposed for replacement cannot be increased without risking a significant increase in repair costs and loss of productivity due to down time.

The Purchasing Office conducted an analysis to determine that the BuyBoard contract was the best-value to the City. The Professional Turf Products contract offered the lowest prices and is able to provide

mowers that fully meet the needs of the Parks and Recreation Department. Professional Turf Products is contracted through BuyBoard to supply these types of mowers to other public entities statewide as a result of a competitive bidding process. Utilizing BuyBoard contracts provides for volume discount pricing as well as the earliest opportunity to place the City's mowers on order.